

PATHFINDER

A GUIDE TO SELECTED RESOURCES



HIV/AIDS AND OTHER STDs
AMONG RURAL POPULATIONS

CDC NATIONAL PREVENTION INFORMATION NETWORK

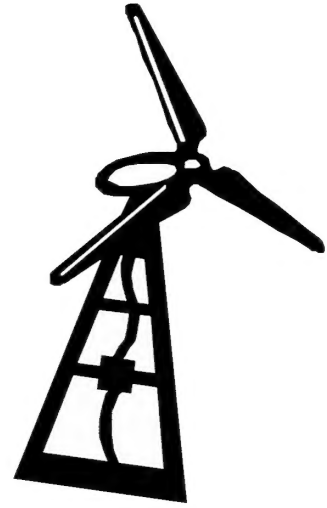
OCTOBER 2000

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The Pathfinder series is produced by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Prevention Information Network (NPIN) and provides a sampling of information available through NPIN databases and other resources on topics relating to HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), and tuberculosis (TB). For a complete list of Pathfinder topics or for more information on NPIN, call 800-458-5231 (800-243-7012 TTY) or visit the NPIN Web site at www.cdcnpin.org.

This information is made available as a public service. CDC and NPIN do not endorse the organizations and materials represented. It is the responsibility of the user to evaluate this information prior to use based on individual needs and community standards.

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I N T R O D U C T I O N

During the last decade, the 25 counties with the highest rates of AIDS cases were mostly rural. The rates of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), which increase the risk of transmitting HIV, were also high in rural areas, especially in the South.

Rural areas present unique challenges to providing HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment services. For example, confidentiality may be hard to maintain in rural areas, contributing to the stigma surrounding HIV testing and other prevention activities. In addition, a lack of rural health services, particularly HIV/AIDS specialty care, combined with long distances between towns, creates barriers to treatment.

The CDC is committed to addressing these and other challenges by supporting hundreds of community-based HIV prevention and treatment programs across the nation. Pathfinders are just one of the tools CDC offers to make information on HIV/AIDS resources and services accessible. This Pathfinder includes lists of organizations, educational materials, and Internet sites to help you find information on HIV/AIDS, STDs, and rural populations.

While the descriptions about each resource can guide you to a general understanding of the services or information provided, they are not intended to be comprehensive. Please contact organizations directly for detailed information on their resources and services or for the complete text of the educational materials they provide.

Much of the information in this Pathfinder is drawn from regularly updated National Prevention Information Network (NPIN) databases. Visit the CDC NPIN Web site at cdcnpin.org to conduct a database search for the most current information. To request a customized database search, order a free list of materials, or speak with an information specialist to ask specific questions about HIV/AIDS, STDs, and rural populations, call 800-458-5321 (800-243-7012 TTY).



The CDC National Prevention Information Network (NPIN) develops, identifies, and collects information on the prevention, treatment, and control of HIV/AIDS, STDs, and TB and makes this information available to healthcare providers, patients, grassroots community organizations, and organizations working in prevention, research, and support services. In addition to developing the Pathfinder series, NPIN offers a variety of other services, described below.

Comprehensive Reference and Referral Services staffed with English- and Spanish-speaking health information specialists can link you to information and educational materials, refer you to organizations, and help you find information about funding and other topics. Specialists take calls Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. All calls are completely confidential.

Online Databases link you to information and services related to HIV/AIDS, STDs, and TB. NPIN databases, which you can access through the NPIN Web site, include an Educational Materials Database, Resource and Services Database, Funding Database, Conference Databases, and the CDC HIV/STD/TB Prevention News Update Database.

Publications Distribution Services provide fact sheets, guidelines, and reports on HIV/AIDS, STDs, and TB. Many materials are available in Spanish. Selected materials are also available through NPIN FAX, a fax-on-demand service that you can access through NPIN's toll-free number.

Resource and Training Centers provide professional research services and maintain NPIN's large collection of education materials, journals, and newsletters on HIV/AIDS, STDs, and TB. Onsite technical assistance and training for NPIN Web site and Internet searching are also available for individuals or small groups, by appointment.

Internet Services include a Web site that offers searchable databases, full-text publications, and links to related sites; a listserv that sends subscribers abstracts of articles from scientific journals and the lay press; and an FTP library that allows you to download fact sheets, articles, and resource guides on HIV/AIDS, STDs, and TB.

Business and Labor Resource Service, staffed by health information specialists, helps businesses and labor unions develop workplace policies and employee education programs on HIV and AIDS. Links to other workplace sites and information on manager's and labor leader's kits are available through the Business Responds to AIDS and Labor Responds to AIDS Web site.

To Contact NPIN

Call 800-458-5231 (800-243-7012 TTY) or visit our Web site at www.cdcpin.org.



The listings in this section are drawn from the NPIN Resources and Services Database and include information about national organizations that provide HIV/AIDS and STD services for rural populations. Many of these organizations are affiliated with or are collaborating with state, local, and regional organizations that provide services directly to rural communities.

This list is not comprehensive: it provides only a sampling of resources and services available on this topic. For names and contact information for organizations in your area that provide HIV/AIDS and STD information and services for rural populations, contact NPIN at 800-458-5231 (800-243-7012 TTY) or visit the NPIN Web site at www.cdcnpin.org and search our Resources and Services Database.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)

2101 East Jefferson Street
Suite 501
Rockville, MD 20852
800-358-9295 (Toll-Free)
301-594-1360 (Main)
301-594-2296 (Fax)
www.ahrq.gov (Web Site)
info@ahrq.gov (E-mail)

AHRQ works to improve the quality, appropriateness, and effectiveness of healthcare and to improve access to health services. To this end, AHRQ funds research on key healthcare delivery and medical effectiveness issues through grants and contracts. Examples of projects funded in the past include studies to improve the quality, effectiveness, and outcomes of health services to rural Americans.

American Council on Rural Special Education (ACRSE)

Executive Office
2323 Anderson Avenue
Suite 226
Manhattan, KS 66502
785-532-5717 (Main)
785-532-7732 (Fax)
www.ksu.edu/acres (Web Site)
acres@ksu.edu (E-mail)

ACRSE addresses the growing problem of injection drug use and sexual activity among disabled and gifted individuals in rural populations. It provides a network of organizations providing HIV/AIDS educational services and works to enhance opportunities for HIV/AIDS prevention education. It also produces and disseminates materials on safer sex education.

Bureau of Primary Health Care HIV/AIDS Bureau

Health Resources and Services Administration
5600 Fishers Lane
Room 7-74
Rockville, MD 20857
301-443-9051 (Main)
301-443-1839 (Fax)
www.bphc.hrsa.dhhs.gov (Web Site)

This bureau is concerned with primary healthcare for underserved populations and supports projects to coordinate services and research for children, youth, women, and families. It focuses on the development of primary healthcare and social services.

National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC)

1330 New Hampshire Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036
202-659-8008 (Main)
202-659-8519 (Fax)
www.nachc.com (Web Site)

As the trade association for the nation's community health centers, migrant health centers, and healthcare for homeless projects, NACHC provides comprehensive primary care in medically underserved rural communities nationwide. NACHC provides training on funding and program development and works to focus attention on the healthcare needs of underserved communities.

National Center for Farmworker Health

1770 FM 967
Buda, TX 78610 (Street Address)
P.O. Box 150009
Austin, TX 78715 (Mailing Address)



800-377-9968 (Toll-Free)
512-312-2700 (Main)
512-312-2600 (Fax)
www.ncfh.org (Web Site)

The National Center for Farmworker Health calls for doctors and medical service providers to care for migrant farm workers, who, due to the nature of their work, often neglect their health. Farm workers who dial the toll-free line can be referred to their nearest source of healthcare.

National Rural Health Association (NRHA)

One West Armour Boulevard
Suite 203
Kansas City, MO 64111
816-756-3140 (Main)
816-756-3144 (Fax)
www.nrharural.org (Web Site)
mail@nrharural.org (E-mail)

The NRHA offers conferences, education planning activities, and policy coordination functions related to HIV/AIDS in rural areas.

Office of Minority Health Resource Center (OMH-RC)

5515 Security Lane
Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852 (Street Address)
P.O. Box 37337
Washington, DC 20013-7337 (Mailing Address)
800-444-6472 (Toll-Free)
301-230-7199 (TTY)
301-230-7198 (Fax)
info@omhrc.gov (E-mail)
www.omhrc.gov (Web Site)

The OMH-RC maintains information on health-related resources targeting Native Americans, Asian/Pacific Islanders, Hispanics, and African Americans who live in rural areas. OMH-RC offers sources of free and low-cost services and maintains a computerized database of minority health-related materials and programs. The OMH-RC offers fact sheets and a newsletter highlighting minority health issues and news about the center.

Office of Rural Health Policy (ORHP)

Health Resources and Services Administration
5600 Fishers Lane
Room 9A-55
Rockville, MD 20857

800-633-7701 (Toll-Free)
301-443-0835 (Main)
301-443-2803 (Fax)
www.ruralhealth.hrsa.gov (Web Site)

The ORHP works with federal agencies, states, foundations, and private sector organizations to seek solutions to rural America's healthcare problems through its Rural Health Outreach and Rural Health Network Development programs. ORHP publishes directories, fact sheets, and resource guides.

Rural Center for AIDS/STD Prevention (RCAP)

Indiana University
801 East Seventh Street
Bloomington, IN 47405-3085
800-566-8644 (Toll-Free Voice and TTY)
812-855-1718 (Main)
812-855-3717 (Fax)
aids@indiana.edu (E-mail)
www.indiana.edu/~aids/ (Web Site)

RCAP promotes HIV/STD prevention in rural America, with the goal of reducing HIV/STD incidence. RCAP develops and evaluates educational materials and approaches, examines the behavioral and social barriers to HIV/STD prevention that can be applied to prevention programming, and provides prevention resources to professionals and the public.

Rural Information Center Health Service (RICHS)

National Agricultural Library
10301 Baltimore Avenue
Room 304
Beltsville, MD 20705-2351
800-633-7701 (Toll-Free)
301-504-5547 (Main)
301-504-6856 (TTY)
301-504-5181 (Fax)
ric@nal.usda.gov (E-mail)
www.nal.usda.gov/ric/richs/ (Web Site)

Operating as part of the National Agricultural Library's Rural Information Center, RICHS collects and disseminates information on rural health issues. RICHS refers users to organizations or individuals for additional information, performs complimentary database searches on rural health topics and funding resources, and offers publications.



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Drawn from the NPIN Funding Database, the organizations below fund programs that relate to HIV/AIDS and other STDs among rural populations. Contact these organizations directly to learn about current funding opportunities or to find financial support for education, prevention, and support services.

For more organizations that provide funding on HIV/AIDS and STDs contact NPIN at 800-458-5231 (800-243-7012 TTY) or visit the NPIN Web site at www.cdcnpin.org/funding and search our Funding Database.

Baxter Allegiance Foundation

One Baxter Parkway
Deerfield, IL 60015
847-948-4605 (Main)
847-948-4026 (Fax)

Baxter Allegiance Foundation funds projects that benefit the entire healthcare field. Projects that receive funding include those that emphasize healthcare access, quality, and cost-effectiveness, and those that include early-stage research or advocacy efforts. Funds are not granted to disease-specific organizations.

Ford Foundation

320 East 43rd Street
New York, NY 10017
212-573-5000 (Main)
212-351-3677 (Fax)
www.fordfound.org (Web Site)

The reproductive health unit of the Ford Foundation gives to programs that focus on adolescent sexuality and HIV/AIDS prevention, welfare reform, and job training. The Foundation helps rural communities, both in the United States and abroad, build capacity in support of these goals.

OUT Fund for Lesbian and Gay Liberation

c/o Funding Exchange
666 Broadway
Suite 500
New York, NY 10012
212-529-5300 (Main)

The OUT Fund considers grants for HIV/AIDS-related projects in rural or other isolated areas.

W. K. Kellogg Foundation

One Michigan Avenue, East
Battle Creek, MI 49017-4058
616-968-1611 (Main)
616-968-0413 (Fax)
www.wkkf.org (Web Site)

The Kellogg Foundation gives funds throughout the United States to programs with priorities in rural development and health. Emphasis is placed on public health, primary care, and prevention.



FUNDING SOURCES

The following Internet sites offer information about current funding and grants to organizations providing HIV/AIDS- and STD- related health and education services. Some of the sites have online databases that allow users to conduct tailored searches. If you do not have a computer with Internet access, check with your local public library, or call NPIN at 800-458-5231 to help you search for funding opportunities.

CDC National Prevention Information Network

www.cdcnpin.org/db/public/fundmain.htm

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

www.cdc.gov/funding.htm

The Federal Register

www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/aces/aces140.html

The Foundation Center

fdncenter.org/search.zone

Grantmakers in Health

www.gih.org

Health Resources and Services Administration

www.hrsa.gov/grants.htm

Office of Minority Health Resource Center

www.omhrc.gov/qfunding.htm

Society of Research Administrators

www.wi.mit.edu/grants/other.html#sra

U.S. Department of Education

www.ocfo.ed.gov/fedreg.htm

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

www.hhs.gov/progorg/grantsnet (GrantsNet)

www.hhs.gov/progorg/grantsnet/search.html (Funding Links)

You can also locate funding information by subscribing to the *CDC HIV/STD/TB PreventionNews* listserv, a daily e-mail newsletter that includes announcements of new funding opportunities. Subscribe to the listserv by sending a blank message to preventionnews-subscribe@cdcnpin.org. For more information about the listserv, visit the NPIN Web site at www.cdcnpin.org.

GRANT WRITING

Finding sources of funding is just the first part of your search for grants. The most important—and frequently most challenging—aspect of seeking grants is writing your grant proposal. The following organizations' Internet sites provide information that may help you write your grant request.

The Corporation for Public Broadcasting

www.cpb.org/grants/grantwriting.html

Community Development Society (CDS) by the Seattle Community Network

www.scn.org/ip/cds/cmp/proposal.htm



I N T E R N E T R E S O U R C E S

Information about HIV/AIDS and other STDs abounds on the Internet. This section presents addresses of select Internet sites that provide information on these health issues as they affect rural populations. For Web sites of national organizations serving this community, refer to the *Organizations* section of this Pathfinder.

The sites listed here are intended to serve as a starting point in your exploration of the Internet as a source of information on HIV/AIDS and STDs. Refer to page 6 for tips on searching the Internet on your own.

California Rural Health Policy Council (CRHPC)

www.ruralhealth.ca.gov

The CRHPC Web site contains information for healthcare providers considering setting up practices in rural California, publications and reports about rural healthcare in California, a newsletter, and a calendar of events.

HIV/AIDS Education Opportunities for Rural Health Care Providers

www.uchsc.edu/sm/aids/ssm/begin.htm

The University of Colorado Health Sciences Center has designed this online self-study module for rural healthcare providers. The module provides information about HIV/AIDS prevention and offers providers the opportunity to receive continuing education credits and additional educational resources.

Oregon Rural Health Association

www.orha.org

This Web site informs viewers about the Oregon Health Plan, which provides universal healthcare coverage for all Oregonians, and proposed legislative changes to it. Also available is grant information and a discussion of the importance of making sure migrant farm workers are counted in the U.S. census to ensure federal funding for Oregon.

Rural Center for AIDS/STD Prevention (RCAP)

www.indiana.edu/~aids

This site describes RCAP projects including *Condom Use for HIV Prevention Among Rural Single Residents and Alcohol Use and Sexual Behavior Among Rural Adolescents on Probation*. You can also download the RCAP newsletter directly from this site and find information about the RCAP Resource Center located near Indiana University.

Ruralgay.com

www.ruralgay.com

This Web site, which targets gay persons living in rural areas, lists resources on HIV/AIDS. It also provides a forum in which gays living in rural areas can exchange information.

Rural Information Center Health Service

www.nal.usda.gov/ric/richs

This searchable site features a list of upcoming conferences and links to model projects, best practices, and case studies, and an overview of federally funded rural health research projects.

Rural Policy Research Institute

www.rupri.org

This organization researches the effect of public policies on rural communities. Its Web site contains a calendar of events relevant to rural Americans.

Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho (WWAMI) Rural Health Research Center

www.fammed.washington.edu/wamirhrc/

The WWAMI Rural Health Research Center studies trends in rural healthcare. This Web site includes descriptions of its recent studies about such topics as shortages of rural doctors and rural hospitals and reductions in rural women's access to obstetrical, gynecological, and perinatal care.



SEARCH ENGINES

One of the advantages of today's technology is our ability to use the Internet to find information about issues that concern us. There are numerous sites about HIV/AIDS and other STDs. In addition to the information provided in this Pathfinder, use the search engines below to find additional health information.

Alta Vista: altavista.com

Excite: www.excite.com

HotBot: www.hotbot.com

InfoMarket: www.infomarket.com

GoNetwork: infoseek.go.com

Lycos: www.lycos.com

Magellan: magellan.excite.com/

TheElectricLibrary: www.elibrary.com/id/2525

Webcrawler: www.webcrawler.com

Yahoo!: www.yahoo.com

These engines do not search the entire Internet, so you might want to search more than one. Or, to search several engines at the same time, you can use a *meta-search engine* such as:

Blink: www.1blink.com/

Dogpile: www.dogpile.com/

Mamma: www.mamma.com/

Metacrawler: www.metacrawler.com/index.html

For directories of Web links, listservs, documents, and other resources about a particular subject, search the following *meta-sites*:

Argus Clearinghouse: www.clearinghouse.net

WWW Virtual Library: vlib.org

For additional sites and suggestions for conducting a thorough Internet search, contact NPIN at 800-458-5231 (800-243-7012 TTY).

HEALTH LINKS

Visit the following Internet sites for general health information, including information on HIV/AIDS and other STDs.

CDC National Prevention Information Network

www.cdcnpin.org

CDC National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention

www.cdc.gov/nchstp/od/nchstp.html

Healthfinder

www.healthfinder.gov

AEGIS

www.aegis.com

American Social Health Association

www.ashastd.org

Critical Path AIDS Project

www.critpath.org

HIVInSite

hivinsite.ucsf.edu

JAMA STD Information Center

www.ama-assn.org/special/std/std.htm

JAMA HIV/AIDS Information Center

www.ama-assn.org/special/hiv

Johns Hopkins Infectious Diseases

www.hopkins-id.edu/diseases/index_dis.html

Johns Hopkins AIDS Service

hopkins-aids.edu

Francis J. Curry National Tuberculosis Center

www.nationaltbcenter.edu



The educational materials listed in this section are drawn from the National Prevention Information Network (NPIN) Educational Materials Database and include fact sheets, guides, reports, and videos on HIV/AIDS and other STDs among rural populations.

For a more extensive list of educational materials on these topics, contact NPIN at 800-458-5231 (800-243-7012 TTY) or visit the NPIN Web site at www.cdcnpin.org and search our Educational Materials Database.

Community Solutions for Rural Health: An Empowerment Initiative for Rural Communities

This report describes an empowerment program communities may use to improve their health status. It summarizes program initiation, hierarchy, and staffing in rural locations (National Rural Health Association, 1997). To order, contact the National Rural Health Association, One West Armour Boulevard, Suite 203, Kansas City, MO 64111; 816-756-3140.

Directory of State Offices of Rural Health and State Rural Health Associations Helping Rural Communities Through Federal, State, and Local Partnerships

This directory lists private, state, federal, and local rural healthcare programs and their contact information (Health Resources and Services Administration, 1998). To order, contact the HRSA Office of Rural Health Policy, Parklawn Building, Room 9-05, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857; 301-443-0835.

Federal Telemedicine Directory

To improve the health of people in rural areas and of Native Americans, this directory describes federal and state rural health programs and discusses funding sources (Health Resources and Services Administration, 1998). To order, contact the HRSA Office for the Advancement of Telehealth, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 11A-55, Rockville, MD 20857; 301-443-0447.

HIV/AIDS Education in Rural Communities

The papers in this collection consider the following topics: the clinical presentation of HIV/AIDS and the psychosocial needs of HIV-positive rural women, the impact of HIV/AIDS on the income of rural Indiana patients, and a computer simulation model of the spread of HIV/AIDS in Indiana (Eta Sigma Gamma, 1996).

To order, contact Eta Sigma Gamma, National Professional Health Education Honorary, 2000 University Avenue, Muncie, IN 47306; 800-715-2559.

HIV/AIDS in Rural America

This fact sheet summarizes patterns of HIV incidence and prevalence in rural areas. Statistics are broken down by age, cofactors, mode of transmission, gender, race, and size of statistical area (Indiana University, 1996). To order, contact Indiana University, Rural Center for AIDS/STD Prevention, 801 East Seventh Street, Bloomington, IN 47405-3085; 812-855-7974.

HIV/AIDS in Rural America: An Issue Paper Prepared by the National Rural Health Association

This position paper discusses the impact of HIV/AIDS on rural communities across the United States (National Rural Health Association, 1997). To order, contact the National Rural Health Association, One West Armour Boulevard, Suite 203, Kansas City, MO 64111; 816-756-3140.

Human Immunodeficiency Virus Infection: A Source Book for the Primary Care Provider

The basic medical aspects of HIV infection are outlined in this handbook, which lists medical and social services in the Mountain-Plains areas of Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming (University of Wyoming, 1998). To order, contact University of Wyoming, Family Practice Residency Program, Wyoming AIDS Education and Training Center, 1522 East A Street, Casper, WY 82601; 307-266-3076.



Making Connections: Building Family Support Networks for Families Living with HIV

A major problem for rural persons living with HIV/AIDS is a lack of support. This guide promotes family support networks and describes how to build and strengthen them, and includes suggestions for network meetings, activities, and fundraising (Institute for Family-Centered Care, 1996). To order, contact Institute for Family-Centered Care, 7900 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 405, Bethesda, MD 20814; 301-652-0281.

Most People Think HIV Is Only a Problem in Big Cities—Unfortunately, I Was One of Those People

This poster features a 19-year-old woman from a small Ohio town who has HIV infection. She urges people living in rural areas to learn more about HIV so that they can avoid becoming infected (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1992). To order, contact NPIN, P.O. Box 6003, Rockville, MD 20849-6003; 800-458-5231 (800-243-7012 TTY); www.cdcpin.org. Request poster # P707.

A National Agenda for Rural Minority Health: 3rd Annual Rural Minority Health Conference, December 11-13, 1997, Charleston, South Carolina

This report discusses the vision and objectives of the Rural Minority Health Work Group for the improvement of healthcare delivery to rural minorities (Rural Minority Health Work Group, 1998). To order, contact National Rural Health Association, One West Armour Boulevard, Suite 203, Kansas City, MO 64111; 816-756-3140.

Prevention of HIV/AIDS Education in Rural Communities II

This monograph discusses HIV/STD prevention research and education targeting rural communities. Topics covered include maternal-infant transmission, HIV among migrant farm workers, and new drug treatment options (Eta Sigma Gamma, National Professional Health Education Honorary, 1997). To order, contact Eta Sigma Gamma, National Professional Health Education Honorary, 2000 University Avenue, Muncie, IN 47306; 800-715-2559.

Projects of the Rural Center for AIDS/STD Prevention

This annual publication lists current projects of Indiana University's Rural Center for AIDS/STD Prevention (Indiana University, 1997). To order, contact Indiana University, Rural Center for AIDS/STD Prevention, 801 East Seventh Street, Bloomington, IN 47405-3085; 812-855-7974.

Risks for HIV Infection Among Persons Residing in Rural Areas and Small Cities: Selected Sites, Southern United States, 1995-1996

This survey of HIV/AIDS patients in four Southeastern states found a high risk for HIV acquisition through sexual contact but a lack of knowledge about HIV transmission (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1998). To order, visit the CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report Web site at <http://www2.cdc.gov/mmwr/>.

Rural Health Services Funding: A Resource Guide

This directory focuses on applying for grants and reviews the funding process. It lists federal, state, and nonpublic information sources for rural health funding and registers related organizations (U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1995). To order, contact the Rural Information Center Health Service, National Agricultural Library, 10301 Baltimore Avenue, Room 304, Beltsville, MD 20705-2351; 800-633-7701.

Seasons

Through interviews with two Native-American women living with HIV/AIDS, this paper reports on healthcare access for HIV-positive persons in rural areas. The report also provides an overview of the 1997 conference "Empowerment: A Strategy for HIV/AIDS Prevention and Access to Care Among Women of Color." (National Native American AIDS Prevention Center, 1997). To order, contact the National Native American AIDS Prevention Center, 436 14th Street, Suite 1020, Oakland, CA 94612; 510-444-2051.



***Southeastern Conference on Rural
HIV/AIDS—Issues in Prevention and
Treatment, Conference Report, August 1997,
Atlanta, Georgia***

This report examines the prevalence and causes of HIV/AIDS in the rural south. It covers strategies for resource development and discusses medical treatment of rural patients with HIV (National Rural Health Association, 1997). To order, contact National Rural Health Association, One West Armour Boulevard, Suite 203, Kansas City, MO 64111; 816-756-3140.

***What Are Sex Workers' HIV Prevention
Needs?***

This fact sheet discusses HIV prevention strategies targeting sex workers. It focuses on activities in rural Nevada, where prostitution is legal and where healthcare, HIV testing, and condom distribution are incorporated into the licensing procedures (University of California, San Francisco, 1996). To order, contact NPIN, P.O. Box 6003, Rockville, MD 20849-6003; 800-458-5231 (800-243-7012 TTY); www.cdcnpin.org. Request publication # D306 (English) or D846 (Spanish).



SELECTING EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

Choosing the right presentation of information is as important as the information itself. As you search for educational materials, consider the following questions:

- ***Which format best suits your audience's needs, preferences, and habits?***

A journal article is more appropriate for audiences with formal medical training. And individuals with low-literacy skills, or for whom English is not the first language, may benefit from information presented graphically.

- ***Which format best fits your purpose?***

A fact sheet or report may best convey factual information, whereas a flyer or brochure may be more motivational.

- ***Which format will most easily reach your audience?***

A self-mailing brochure might save you time and money, or perhaps your audience has easy access to computers and would prefer viewing the information electronically.

- ***Is the information up-to-date and appropriate for your audience?***

By locating the publication dates of your educational materials, you can see where they fit in the progression of the science of HIV/AIDS testing and treatment.

Your local public libraries, state health departments, university libraries, and health information clearinghouses provide information and trained staff to help you access, evaluate, and use educational materials. Nowadays, information is easier to access than ever before: many public libraries offer online access to library resources, including state university libraries. Contact your public library to learn if your state participates in such a program and how to access it. Or contact NPIN's skilled librarians and information specialists for personalized research support and help in locating and evaluating the information you need to prevent the spread of HIV disease.



